Illicit cultivation of poppy

1038. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Narcotics Control Bureau and the Narcotics Commissioner, Gwalior have destroyed illicit cultivation of poppy in the North Western region of Uttar Pradesh recently;

(b) what are the other States where cultivation of poppy and ganja has been located and destroyed by the Narcotics Control Bureau so far during the current year; and

(c) how many persons have been arrested in this connection and what punishment has been awaded to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir. In a joint operation, the officers of Narcotics Control Bureau, Narcotics Commissioner and the State Revenue Department destroyed illicit cultivation of poppy, in about 150 acres in Uttar kashi district of Uttar Pradesh in April, 1989.

(b) Illicit cultivation of ganja in the States of Kerala, Manipur, Mizoram and Tamilnadu and of poppy in Manipur and Mizoram had been located and destroyed by the Narcotics Control Bureau of Collaboration with the State agencies concerned.

(c) 21 persons in all had been arrested in this connection for appropriate action under the law.

Export of ready-made garments by Big Industrial houses

1039. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that big industrial houses have entered in the field of export of ready-made garments which was earlier reserved for small scale and medium scale sector;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the United States, which is consumer of ready-made garments from India is not purchasing huge quantity of ready-made garments like previous years; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to safeguard the interests of small scale and medium scale industries in the matter of export of ready-made garments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Big industrial houses can enter the field of export of ready made garments subject to certain conditions of export obligation under the policy of the Government.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

1040. [*Transferred to the 8th May, 1989*].

Jharkhand Mukti Morcha's Call to form Parallel Government

1041. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha's call to form a parallel Government in May, 1989; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Government is of the view that demands of this nature arise, largely on

account of economic-imbalances and such imbalances in a particular State or region should be tackled through the mechanism of planned development. Steps are being taken in this direction.

Sharing of Ganga Waters with Bangladesh

1042.SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take any initiative to enter into a fresh agreement with Bangladesh on the question of sharing of Ganga Water;

(b) if so, what measures Government propose to take to ensure the flow of adequate water into the Hooghly river through the feeder canal at Farakka Barrage point; and

(c) what is the outcome of the ongoing bilateral talks between India and Bangladesh on this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) Bilateral talks with Bangladesh for sharing of Ganga Water have not been completed.

Accumulation of goods for export at Delhi Airport due to non-availability of freight carriers

1043. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA JAYAWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about two thousand tonnes of goods for export are lying at Delhi Airport due to non-availability of freight carriers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that export orders amounting to more than twenty crores of rupees have been cancelled by foreign buyers as a result thereof;

(c) if so, what action has been taken to tackle the situation and also to avoid such situation in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) Yes, Sir. While a number of representations have been received regarding accumulation of export consignments at Delhi Airport, however, no reports have been received regarding cancellation of any specific export order.

(b) and (c) During the peak season from January to June, due to spurt in export activity, there is pressure on the air cargo export infrastructure and capacity. However, concerted measures have been taken with the assistance of the Ministries and agencies including Director-General of Civil Aviation, Customs, International, Airport Authority of India and the Airlines to arrange for additional flights and clear the cargo backlog. These measures include the adoption of an open skies policy involving grant of permission to scheduled and non-scheduled frighter operators to provide additional flights with inward loading rights, creation of increased holding capacity in the Goods Terminals at Gateway Airports, permitting tourist charter operators to carry expot consignments on their return flights from India, extension of the demurrage free period for export consignments in the IAAI warehouse from 6 days to 11 days and extension of garment quota expiry date from 17th to 30th April, 1989 etc.

Departmental stores for Delhi Police

1044. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a proposal for the opening of Departmental Stores for Delhi Police personnel wherefrom they could purchase essential commodities and get a commission of Rs. 50/- on their monthly purchase bill by way of subsidy;

(b) whether the proposal was not agreed to;